

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 and 5 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, and amend claims 2, 6, and 13, as follows:

1 ~~2~~ (amended). [The device of claim 1, further comprising:] A device for mounting a
2 touch pad in an electronic system, comprising:
3 a housing enclosing said electronic system;
4 said housing bearing an opening facilitating tactile access, from outside said housing, to said
5 touch pad;
6 a touch pad supporting case attachable to an inner surface of said housing to securely
7 position said touch pad in a position aligning said touch pad with said opening in said
8 housing;
9 said touch pad supporting case being formed of a metallic material and being free from
10 plastic materials;
11 a plurality of lugs attached to said inner surface of said housing proximate to said opening;
12 and
13 said touch pad supporting case bearing a plurality of slots receivably engaging said plurality
14 of lugs to secure said touch pad supporting case to said inner surface of said housing.

1 ~~6~~ (amended). [The device of claim 5, further comprising:] A device for mounting a
2 touch pad in an electronic system, comprising:
3 a housing enclosing said electronic system and comprising:

4 said housing bearing a first opening facilitating tactile access, from outside said
5 housing, to said touch pad; and

6 said housing bearing a second opening positioned operably proximate to said first
7 opening;

8 a touch pad supporting case attachable to an inner surface of said housing to securely
9 position said touch pad in a position aligning said touch pad with said first opening
10 in said housing;

11 said touch pad supporting case being formed of a metallic material and being free from
12 plastic materials; and

13 a plurality of buttons attached to an inner surface of said housing and positioned to align said
14 plurality of buttons with said second opening, said second opening facilitating tactile
15 contact, from outside said housing, with said plurality of buttons, mounted inside said
16 housing;

17 a plurality of lugs attached to said inner surface of said housing proximate to said first
18 opening; and

19 said touch pad supporting case bearing a plurality of slots receivably engaging said plurality
20 of lugs to secure said touch pad supporting case to said inner surface of said housing.

11
1 13 (amended). A device for mounting a touch pad in an electronic system,
2 comprising:

3 a housing enclosing said electronic system and comprising:

4 said housing bearing a first opening facilitating tactile access, from outside said

5 housing, to said touch pad;
6 a plurality of lugs attached to said inner surface of said housing proximate to said first
7 opening; and
8 said housing bearing a second opening positioned operably proximate to said first
9 opening;
10 a touch pad supporting case attachable to an inner surface of said housing to securely
11 position said touch pad in a position aligning said touch pad with said first opening
12 in said housing;
13 said touch pad supporting case being formed of stainless steel, being free from plastic
14 materials, being less than one millimeter thick, and bearing a plurality of slots
15 receivably engaging said plurality of lugs of said housing to secure said touch pad
16 supporting case to said inner surface of said housing; and
17 a plurality of buttons attached to an inner surface of said housing and positioned to align said
18 plurality of buttons with said second opening, said second opening facilitating tactile
19 contact, from outside said housing, with said plurality of buttons, mounted inside said
20 housing.